
U.S. Department of the Interior • U.S. Geological Survey

MINERAL INDUSTRY SURVEYS

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Molybdenum, Monthly

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MOLYBDENUM IN JUNE 1996

Domestic production of molybdenum in concentrate increased 1% in June 1996 compared with that of the previous month and was 6% more than in June 1995, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. Producer molybdenum stocks in concentrate, oxide, and other product forms were 8,930 metric tons at the beginning of 1996 and 12,200 metric tons at the end of June.

Included in this Mineral Industry Surveys (MIS) are U.S. production, shipments, and stocks of molybdenum concentrates and materials, plus U.S. consumption by end use of molybdenum in June 1996. Also included are trade data for May 1996. During June, Platt's Metals Week U.S. monthly average price for molybdenum concentrate was \$4.409 per kilogram (\$2.000 per pound). The average price for dealer molybdenum oxide was \$7.248 per kilogram (\$3.288 per pound) and that for dealer ferromolybdenum was \$10.251 per kilogram (\$4.650 per pound).

For the week ending August 16, 1996, Metals Week U.S. average price for molybdenum concentrate was \$4.409 per kilogram (\$2.000 per pound). The average price for dealer molybdenum oxide was \$7.055 per kilogram (\$3.200 per pound) and that for ferromolybdenum was \$10.031 per kilogram (\$4.550 per pound).

TABLE 1
U.S. SALIENT MOLYBDENUM CONCENTRATE STATISTICS 1/

(Metric tons, contained molybdenum)

Item	1995 p/	1996		
		May	June	Year to date 2/
Production	58,000	4,960 r/	4,980	28,700
Shipments: 3/				
Domestic	13,700	1,310	1,310	7,730
Export	18,600	1,420 r/	1,450	8,780

p/ Preliminary. r/ Revised.

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits.

2/ May include revisions to previous months' data.

3/ As reported by producers.

TABLE 2
U.S. REPORTED CONSUMPTION, BY END USES, AND CONSUMER STOCKS OF MOLYBDENUM MATERIALS
IN JUNE 1996 1/

(Hundred kilograms, contained molybdenum)

End use	Molybdic oxides	Ferro molyb- denum 2/	Ammonium and sodium molybdate	Molyb- denum scrap	Other	Total
Steel:						
Carbon	442	254	--	--	W	696
Stainless and heat-resisting	2,330	112	--	--	W	2,450
Full alloy	2,030	1,480	--	--	45	3,550
High-strength low-alloy	198	247	--	--	--	445
Tool	886	38	--	--	W	924
Cast irons	17	514	--	--	W	531
Superalloys	913	W	--	364	549	1,830
Alloys:						
Welding materials (structural and hard-facing)	--	W	--	--	W	W
Other alloys 3/	--	W	--	5	W	5
Mill products made from metal power	--	--	--	--	1,440	1,440
Chemical and ceramic uses:						
Pigments	--	--	W	--	--	W
Catalysts	773	--	W	--	W	773
Other	W	--	--	--	W	W
Miscellaneous and unspecified	18	140	798	--	575	1,530
Total	7,610	2,780	798	369	2,600	14,200
Stocks, June 30, 1996	4,770	1,480	97	626	8,110	15,500

W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included in "Miscellaneous and unspecified."

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Includes calcium molybdate.

3/ Includes magnetic and nonferrous alloys.

TABLE 3
U.S. REPORTED PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS OF MOLYBDENUM PRODUCTS 1/

(Metric tons, contained molybdenum)

Product	1995 p/	1996		
		May r/	June	Year to date 2/
Gross production	46,000	4,060	4,240	24,100
Molybdenum product 3/ used to make other products	23,100	2,210	2,270	12,600
Shipments	24,000	2,220	2,160	12,000

p/ Preliminary. r/ Revised.

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits.

2/ May include revisions to previous months' data.

3/ Includes molybdic oxides, metal powder, ammonium molybdate, sodium molybdate, and other.

TABLE 4
U. S. EXPORTS OF MOLYBDENUM ORE AND CONCENTRATE
(Including roasted concentrate), BY COUNTRY 1/

(Hundred kilograms, contained molybdenum)

Country	1995 p/	1996		
		April	May	Year to date
Australia	650	--	18	138
Belgium	103,000	10,100	8,930	63,600
Brazil	1,580	--	--	190
Canada	7,590	204	290	951
Chile	62,900	5,930	8,850	27,800
China	--	--	1,460	1,650
France	--	--	--	6
Germany	7,700	739	875	2,400
Italy	1,370	--	202	634
Japan	54,900	6,070	5,130	23,000
Korea, Republic of	2	--	--	--
Mexico	40,400	3,100	6,430	25,800
Netherlands	112,000	3,730	3,920	21,500
Singapore	1	--	--	--
Spain	121	--	--	--
Sweden	6,300	--	400	1,940
Switzerland	324	--	--	--
Taiwan	6	--	--	--
United Kingdom	47,400	6,900	6,390	31,300
Venezuela	5	--	--	--
Total	446,000	39,500	42,900	201,000

p/ Preliminary.

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

Source: Bureau of the Census.

TABLE 5
U.S. EXPORTS OF FERROMOLYBDENUM, BY COUNTRY 1/

(Hundred kilograms, contained molybdenum)

Country	1995 p/	1996		
		April	May	Year to date
Australia	8	--	--	--
Canada	2,230	257	306	1,630
China	2	--	--	--
Egypt	9	--	--	--
Japan	1,050	227	--	1,440
Korea, Republic of	21	11	--	20
Malaysia	461	--	--	621
Mexico	2,110	237	120	678
Netherlands	737	--	--	--
Singapore	--	104	110	388
Spain	234	--	10	10
Taiwan	485	--	--	--
Venezuela	27	11	--	13
Total	7,350	847	546	4,800

p/ Preliminary.

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

Source: Bureau of the Census.

TABLE 6
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF MOLYBDENUM PRODUCTS 1/

(Hundred kilograms unless otherwise specified)

Material	1995			1996		
	January-December			January-May		
	Gross weight	Contained molybdenum	Value (thousands)	Gross weight	Contained molybdenum	Value (thousands)
Ore and concentrates roasted	74,300	47,800	\$73,400	34,000	23,500	\$18,600
Ore and concentrates other	15,000	7,930	8,040	350	209	166
Molybdenum chemicals:						
Oxides and hydroxides	9,180	NA	11,400	2,830	NA	2,510
Molybdates of ammonium	3,450	1,860	2,880	3,060	1,500	2,770
Molybdates (all others)	540	420	285	423	191	261
Molybdenum orange	6,740	NA	2,270	8,240	NA	2,530
Mixtures of inorganic compounds	6	5	130	--	--	--
Ferromolybdenum	65,500	41,900	74,600	42,100	26,600	31,600
Molybdenum powders	1,950	1,460	5,590	406	379	1,180
Molybdenum unwrought	1,310	1,020	3,560	511	476	1,360
Molybdenum waste and scrap	4,530	4,300	6,310	4,160	4,000	6,170
Molybdenum wrought	--	--	--	--	--	--
Molybdenum wire	11	NA	277	5	NA	80
Molybdenum other	27	NA	993	17	NA	460
Total	183,000	107,000	190,000	96,000	56,800	67,700

NA Not available.

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

Source: Bureau of the Census.